

From: JohnR8831@aol.com@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 10:16am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Dear Sirs:

I hate to think of the sums that have been wasted in the DOJ attempt to give MS competitors an opportunity to pick its bones clean. It seems all a company has to do to get nailed by you guys is to succeed and have some competitors seek legal assistance instead of market support.

I have been a MS customer since the company was founded. I have read Gates's book "The Road Ahead," I have owned stock in the company because I believed they had superior products and a marketing team that was aggressive. Being a business man myself, I know you can't expect to win in the business world unless you go after market share like a bulldog after a cat. To punish a company for succeeding in catching the cat is anti competitive and anti consumer. You don't get better share of market by not offering the right product at the right price. It just doesn't happen.

What DOJ seems to be doing is making it impossible for MS to continue to sell its products. You won't even let the company give them away to the schools. What's the matter with you? Are you crazy? Would it hurt the children to have access to better information, well delivered and simply accessed at no cost? I must be missing something. Or is your mission to hurt the consumer, cripple MS, enrich some states' coffers at the expense of the stock holders and employees of MS, assist MS competitors so they can sell inferior products at higher cost? If that is your mission, then I strongly object to having tax payer money expended on such a pernicious, unpatriotic and destructive undertaking.

Please give MS a break. Now especially when our nation is in the throes of the most serious recession since 1929. Don't you think it's time to find another target? While MS has competitors how can DOJ say it is a monopoly? When I played the game I nobody else had a piece of "Park Place." It was all mine.

Sorry if this letter seems curt, but I do think enough is enough.

Sincerely,
John Rhein

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